



BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL

Infrastructure Media Summary

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Illinois and Indiana sign Illiana Expressway pact

NWI Times
Keith Benman
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Indiana and Illinois have announced the signing of a binding agreement on the Illiana Expressway, covering everything from financing to maintenance of the 47-mile expressway. The 33-page pact spells out the responsibilities of both states as well as expectations for private investors that are expected to bid on designing, building and operating the toll road. Chief among those is the Indiana Department of Transportation's commitment of \$80 million to \$110 million in traditional state and federal highway funds from 2015 to 2019 to get the road built, according to the agreement. The Illinois Department of Transportation, under the agreement, commits a minimum of \$250 million. Earlier estimates provided by IDOT show the state agency could be providing up to \$500 million in state funds to get the road built and operations underway. Private investors are expected to provide the rest of the funding for the expressway. The investors will recoup their money through milestone and annual availability payments made by the states. The states hope to recoup their investment through getting a cut of the tolls. "The agreement enables us to move the project along efficiently in connecting our distribution centers and trucking corridors to the rest of the world," INDOT Commissioner Karl Browning said. Illinois Secretary of Transportation Ann Schneider touted the finalizing of the agreement as another milestone in making the Illiana Expressway a reality at the April 25 meeting of the Chicago Southland Economic Development Corp. in Park Forest. The Illiana Expressway would run from Interstate 65 just northeast of Lowell to Interstate 55 in Illinois, with two lanes in each direction. It has an estimated \$1.5 billion price tag.

[Illinois and Indiana sign Illiana Expressway pact](#)

Toxic waste delays US 40 work

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BRAZIL, Ind. – Officials say hazardous waste from a former dry cleaner will cause a two-month delay in construction on U.S. 40 near Brazil while workers clean the contaminated site. The Indiana Department of Transportation was notified in March that perchloroethylene – also known as PCE or tetrachloroethylene – was found in groundwater along the project's right of way during an early site check, Indiana Department of Environmental Management spokesman Barry Sneed told the Tribune-Star of Terre Haute. The chemical most commonly is used by dry cleaners. High exposure can lead to liver damage, kidney failure and some cancers, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The PCE plume runs across the highway and some distance parallel to the highway in an area served by city water, INDOT spokeswoman Debbie Calder said. Road work, which had been slated to start in mid-April, is now scheduled to begin June 2

as workers are trained to properly clean the waste, Calder said. The project had been scheduled to be completed by Nov. 15, 2015. Gradex Inc. has a \$19.7 million contract for the project, which will include replacing pavement and adding new storm drainage, curbs and gutters, and sidewalks compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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